



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, January 17, 2008

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The forum of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, January 17, 2008, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Mohamed Okdie **(ABS)**
Willie Hampton **(ABS)**
Arthur Blackwell II **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

Chief Ella M. Bully-Cummings
AC Robert Dunlap
AC Ralph Godbee
Cmdr. Jan Johnson
Lt. Anthony Topp
Lt. Charles Wilson
Lt. Robbin Kirkwood-Farrar
Lt. Terry Herbert
Sgt. Debra Jones
Sgt. Stephanie Smith
Sgt. Romel Alexander
Sgt. Dwight Snodgrass
PO Sophia Nelms
Atty. Grant Ha

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator
P.O. Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

LaWanda Ruffin-Hail
Ron Scott
Trish Cunningham
Kenneth Staib
Joel Brown
Jeremie Vore
John J. Goldpaugh
Rev. Michael Rothgery
Rev. Dr. Cheryl Peterson

Bob Noble
Chrisy Bright
Brian Weinberger
Jennifer Hartweg
Larry Helman
Rev. Steven Marsh
Halldor Gudmundsom
D.J. Dent

RECORDERS

Terence Bell
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ramirez called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:23 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda for January 17, 2008, was not presented given the lack of a quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for December 6, 2007, December 13, 2007, December 20, 2007, and December 27, 2007, January 3, 2008, and January 10, 2008 were not presented because of the lack of a quorum.

4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson Ramirez introduced several area Pastors, and several students from the Trinity Lutheran Seminary from Ohio, who are doing their internship with Focus City Ministries, with a program called Act In Common.

Rev. Marsh stated Act In Common is currently in the City of Detroit and Flint. The goal is to help renew the urban areas in these cities with resources. They are glad to be here to learn more about the Board and the Police Department.

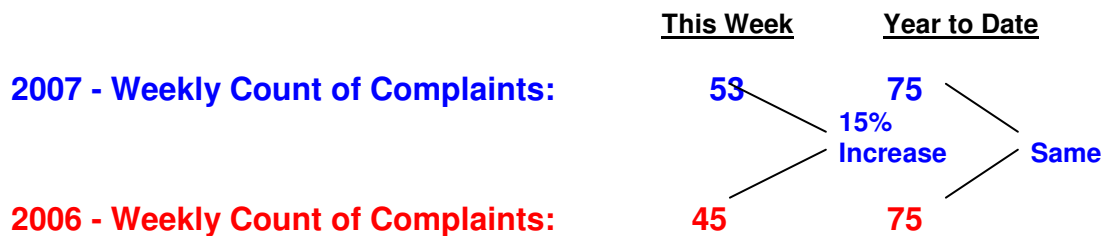
2. SECRETARY REPORT

OFFICE CLOSING

The Board of Police Commissioners' Office and the Office of the Chief Investigator will be **CLOSED** on the following date:

- Monday, January 21, 2007 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED



- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,318** active investigations, of which **70** of those are for 2008.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 01/17/08	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
3	CENTRAL		2				3		1		6
2	COMMUNICATION						1			1	2
4	EASTERN		2	1			3			1	7
1	HOMICIDE									1	1
1	NARCOTICS		1	1			1				3
9	NORTHEASTERN	1	5	1	1		4		1	1	14
10	NORTHWESTERN	1	5		1		8				15
3	SOUTHWESTERN		2	1			3		1		7
1	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT		1				1				2
15	Unknown Command		4	2			8	1	1	3	19
1	VIOLENT CRIMES		1	1			1				3
3	WESTERN		2		1						3
53		2	25	7	3		33	1	4	7	82

Comm. Holley asked how many complaints are there for 2007 and does OCI have a strategy to close those cases before 2009.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated they are investigating all cases; however OCI has only 12 investigators to investigate those cases. They have several initiatives in place on board and, as of now, they are doing their best. They currently have a cold case squad that is finishing up 2006 cases because of the volume of cases. With the Consent Decree in place, they have seen a rise in complaints every year. It all comes down to the number of investigators that they have investigating those complaints.

Comm. Holley asked if they were short of investigators.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated that OCI needs more investigators.

Comm. Holley asked if OCI always had a shortage of investigators.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated yes, they need more investigators.

Comm. Holley asked were there more than 12 before.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated yes, they had as many as 16.

Comm. Holley asked what caused that number to decrease.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated the fiscal crisis in the City of Detroit.

Comm. Holley asked when the reduction took place.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated in 2005.

Comm. Holley asked if he could get a strategy report on how they plan to get caught up.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated he will present several initiatives in the near future.

Comm. Ramirez read the duties and responsibilities of the Commissioners for the visitors. She asked Chief Inv. Sheard to state the type of complaints that OCI investigates.

Chief Investigator Sheard stated they investigate arrest, demeanor, force, harassment, entry, procedure, property, search, and service complaints and gave a brief overview of them.

Chairperson Ramirez stated after OCI finishes their investigations, the cases are read by the commissioners and if there is something that a commissioner thinks needs to be added to the cases, they will return it back to OCI. If everything is okay, they will sign off on the case.

She stated that the Budget Subcommittee met with the Chief and her staff to discuss the police Budget and will schedule a public hearing on January 31, 2008 at 2:00 pm, at 1300 Beaubien, Room 328-A.

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

January 17, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 3

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS



Narcotics/Gang Enforcement

During the period of January 7, 2008 through January 13, 2008, **Narcotics/Gang Enforcement executed 21 search warrants and 50 street enforcement actions** within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- 38 Felony arrests
- 91 Misdemeanor arrests
- 1 Juvenile detained
- 79.70 grams of cocaine, 20.9 grams of heroin, 22,925.70 grams of marijuana and 45 pills, with a total street value:
- \$ 161,652.80
- \$ 11,500.00 in U.S. Currency
- Confiscated:
- 18 Handguns

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

On January 9th, officers of the Central District responded to the 3000 block of Second Avenue on a "Person with a Weapon" which resulted in an arrest. **Domestic Violence conducted the investigation and the subject was charged with (1) Two Counts of Felonious Assault/Domestic Violence, and (2) Once Count of Habitual 4th Degree.**



"BUILDING A SAFER DETROIT THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS"

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.



Engaging the Community

ATTENTION	Location	Hours of Operation	Telephone
Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the Districts in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Sub-Stations to make reports.	2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
	7737 Kercheval	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	852-4778
	13206 E. Jefferson	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	852-5759
	19810 Grand River	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	935-5322
	13530 Lesure	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	596-5300
	12000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555

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Special points of interest:

- **Next meeting:**
 Thursday, January 24, 2008
 @ 3:00 P.M.
Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien St.
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Police / Community Intervention

JANUARY 17, 2008



WESTERN DISTRICT

On January 12th, officers of the Western District responded to an "Armed Robbery," in the area of W. 7 Mile and Sorrento. Due to the officers quick response, three subjects were arrested and charged with (1) Armed Robbery/Felony Firearm. A handgun was confiscated along with possible stolen items taken in the robbery.

Robbery Armed/Non-Fatal Shooting Team (RA/NFS)

On January 10th, officers of the Robbery Armed / Non-Fatal Shooting Team (RA/NFS) were in the area of E. 7 Mile Road and Cardoni when they observed an occupied vehicle wanted for multiple Armed Robberies within the city of Detroit. Upon further investigation, two subjects were arrested and subject #1 was charged with Eight Counts of Armed Robbery and subject #2 was charged with Three Counts of Armed Robbery.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

On January 11th, officers of the Southwestern District conducted an operation to execute search warrants for fugitives wanted on outstanding felony warrants. As a result of this initiative, several arrests were made involving offenders for Carjacking, Assault with Intent to Commit Murder, Felony Firearm, Robbery Armed, and Unlawful Driving Away Auto. In addition, 3 firearms were confiscated along with suspected narcotic paraphernalia.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT

On January 10th, officers the Northwestern District stopped a motorist for a traffic violation in the area of Grand River and Trinity. As a result of their investigation, the motorist was arrested and charged with Fleeing and Eluding 3rd, Habitual Offender 3rd, and Motor Vehicle Advisory.



GANG ENFORCEMENT

On January 9th, officers of the Gang Enforcement conducted an investigation in the area of Woodward and 7 Mile Rd. As a result of the investigation, a handgun was confiscated and a subject was arrested and charged with Carrying a Concealed Weapon Motor Vehicle.



Chief Bully-Cummings welcomed the students from the Seminary and stated hopefully they will be able to get some information from this meeting.

She stated that the department participates in the Risk Management Council. The department was given good news from this meeting that the lawsuits payout for 2006-2007 dropped to 37% from 55% for 2004-2005. Over the last five years, lawsuit payouts averaged \$20 million a year. For 2006-2007, that average dropped down to \$7 million a year.

Yesterday she went before several editorial boards to give preliminary homicide numbers for the City of Detroit. She is worried that given the number alone is very misleading. At the beginning of the year she told the media that the preliminary number was 404. The police department issues a file number to every dead body in the City of Detroit where there is a sign of trauma to the body because it could be a potential homicide. Over a period of time, some of those numbers are backed out by the Medical Examiner who has determined that the person had committed suicide. The definition of a homicide is the unlawful killing of one human being by another human being. The Wayne County Prosecutors can make a determination that a homicide occurred as a result of self-defense, which means that it is not an unlawful killing. In 2007, the department issued 454 file numbers, of that, 394 are preliminary homicide numbers with a reduction of 4% from 2006.

The closure rate, using the FBI definition, is as follows: a homicide is closed when a warrant is obtained and the individual is arrested and that person has been presented to the court. Some cities close a case just on the identity of a person. The department's closure rate is 44.2%, which is below the national average. Earlier this year, their closure rate was around 70%, but there were over 100 killings in two months during the summer.

An example of why the numbers do not tell the whole story is that there are three people that actually died in 2003 in a house fire. Last year an individual confessed to setting that fire, and it was determined in 2007 that it was a homicide.

Some examples of closure rate is that an individual was found shot in his car. It was determined that he tried to rob someone and the person that he tried to rob shot him. It is unlikely that this person will come forward. Another example is that a witness stated that they saw an individual trying to carjack another person. That carjacker was shot and killed and the other person left the scene. The probability of that person coming forward is slim to none. The last one is an individual who was 26 years old who died in November. Thirteen years ago this individual was shot in the stomach and the person who did it was charged and served time for that shooting.

The Medical Examiner ruled that in 2007 that the 26 year-old's death was caused by the gunshot wound from 13 years ago. The only way that this case can be closed is, if a warrant is issued, that individual is arrested and is charged with murder. That's why numbers alone don't tell the whole story. She thanked the men and women of the police department for doing a good job.

Comm. Holley stated that the number of police officers that the department is short of makes it even more difficult.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that the department is budgeted for about 3,400 officers and the department has less than 3,000 officers. The department is at its smallest number since 1967.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

7. NEW BUSINESS

1. GRANT: REQUEST TO APPLY FOR THE "SOLVING COLD CASES WITH DNA PROGRAM" FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (USDOJ)

The United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, is seeking applications for funding under the "Solving Cold Cases with DNA Program." Local governments are eligible to apply for up to \$500,000.00 in funding for a program where the mission is to identify, review, and investigate Uniform Crime Report (UCR), Part 1 Violent Crime "cold cases" that have the potential to be solved through DNA analysis, and to locate and analyze biological evidence associated with these cases.

The Detroit Police Department's Sex Crimes has been provided with the application instructions and is currently developing a program to fit the guidelines of the grant. Sex Crimes, with assistance from Grants and Contracts, will submit an application seeking the maximum amount of \$500,000.00. In the event that approval is granted to apply and the award is received, Lieutenant Monique Patterson, of Sex Crimes, would serve as the project director.

In the grant application, the majority of the funding requested would be for overtime for the officers assigned to the Sex Crimes. Additionally, funds will be requested for investigative travel, laboratory equipment, computer equipment, supplies, and training. The deadline for this application is February 1, 2008.

Upon your approval, the Detroit City Council will be requested to adopt a resolution supporting this application.

The adoption of the Grant was reserved because of the lack of a quorum.

8. OLD BUSINESS

1. GRANT: REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT AN INCREASE IN THE MICHIGAN OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING (OSHP), "SAFE COMMUNITIES GRANT"

The "Safe Communities Grant" from the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP), is a continuation grant presently in the Fiscal Year 2007/2008 budget for \$350,000. The appropriation number is 12348. The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning awarded an additional \$54,500.00 to Detroit Police Department, which brings the total award amount to \$404,500.00. There is **no cash match** required by the City of Detroit for this grant program.

The Board's permission is being requested to accept the grant award increase and to seek approval from the City Council.

Both matters were reserved because of the lack of a quorum.

2: RESOLUTION: MR. LOUIS J. CALHOUN

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 24, 2008 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no oral communications from the audience.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb